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March 1st  
1859.



THE HISTORY  
OF  
THE LAUDERDALE MANUSCRIPT  
OF  
OROSIUS.





ne ieldran ealne þirne rimb hyspæc. þirþ  
middan geardeð spēonoriur fassa oceanur  
utan rimb lizeþ þone zarpfæz hærð on þirþ todæl  
don hie þa þiræ dælaz on þirþ to nāndon arum ⁊  
enworþm ⁊ affliccam.

Vol. Page 14. 26-31.

Ac he myste hwæt þær wæs þæs forþæm heht. self  
 nege reah. þær in nāw him wuhte ⁊ þa bær nāw sƿi-  
 con neah an ƿeƿode. sƿiƿort he for ðidde to eacan  
 þæs landes ƿesapunze forþæn hore hwælum for  
 ðæm he habbað sƿiƿe æfele bān on hiora wƿum  
 ƿæced he brohton rume þān ƿinnze ⁊ hiora hƿeð

### A few of the Contractions

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RE XLDRAN TEALNE

ÐY SNE YNB HYRFT

ÐYSES OYTOAN GIEARDIES. CIPAT. OROSIUS

spa spa oceanur ymbliges uzandone man gar  
sege hatad. on ðreo to dædon. 7 hūly þapny dælar on  
ðreo to nemdon. asiam. 7 eūropam. 7 affricam.

Continuatio.

ū. am

f. per

ū. 2. as

Ache nysfæ hƿæt þæs soðer ƿæs. ƿon  
ðam hēhīf sylf nege seah. þa ƿinnas hī ƿuhte. 7 þa  
beornas. sƿæcon neah angedeode. sƿiðost he ƿon  
ðýðe to eacan þæs landes sceapunge. ƿon ðam hoƿe  
hƿælum. ƿon ðam hī habbað sƿýðe æbelebān. on  
hýra to bū. þa tæd hý bƿohton ƿume þam cýnince  
7 hýra hýð bið sƿiðe 3oð to cýpnapum.

Id. fol. 10 a. 20. 22. 23.



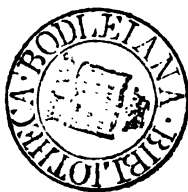
THE HISTORY  
OF  
THE LAUDERDALE MANUSCRIPT  
OF  
KING ALFRED'S ANGLO-SAXON VERSION  
OF  
OROSIUS.

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BY  
THE REV. JOSEPH BOSWORTH, D.D. F.R.S. F.S.A.

CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD;

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LONDON; HONORARY F.R.S. OF SCIENCES, NORWAY; F.S.A. COPENHAGEN; F. OF LIT. S.  
LEYDEN, UTRECHT, ROTTERDAM, ETC.



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TO JOHN TOLLEMACHE ESQ. M.P.

HELMINGHAM HALL, SUFFOLK, AND

PECKFERTON CASTLE, CHESHIRE.

*November 8th, 1858.*



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## THE HISTORY

OF

### THE LAUDERDALE MANUSCRIPT OF OROSIUS.

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THE LAUDERDALE MS. receives its name from its late possessor, the Duke of Lauderdale, a nobleman not less distinguished for his loyalty and energy in the cause of Charles II, than for his enlightened zeal in promoting literature. He was taken prisoner, in the civil war, at the battle of Worcester, in 1651, and was confined in the Tower of London for nine years. At the restoration in 1660, his fidelity and talents were acknowledged by Charles II, who, at once, made him Secretary of State, and President of the Council. Besides receiving many other proofs of the sovereign's favour, he was installed a Knight of the Garter, and appointed High Commissioner of Scotland; and, on May 2nd 1672, he was created Marquis of March, and Duke of Lauderdale, in Scotland; and enrolled among the Peers of England, 25 June 1674, as Baron Petersham and Earl of Guilford.

We avoid speaking of the great immorality prevailing in that most profligate age, in which the Duke and Duchess lived; but as Lord Macaulay<sup>6</sup>, following the party bias of preceding historians, has painted the Duke's character in the darkest colours, scarcely throwing in one light shade, it seems necessary to cite some more just estimates of his conduct by those who neither

<sup>6</sup> Hist. of England from the Accession of James II. 5th. Edn. 8vo. 1849: vol I, p 213: II, 575.

spared his failings, nor the vices of the age, but who, while severely censuring his errors, had the candour to mention with praise the Duke's devotion to literature, and his patronage of learned men.

“ As this great nobleman hath been most unjustly aspersed by some historians, we first give his character in the words of North, an author of reputation, who, though an English Historian, seems to have examined the whole line of his conduct without prejudice. He says—‘ It is well known that, by the prudent conduct of the Duke of Lauderdale, Scotland was in a posture, not only of safety, but of giving assistance to the king, if needed. He was an inexpugnable loyalist, and kepted the door of Scotland close shut, that no arm could get in or out there, while he was Commissioner, which, in the sense of the Earl of Shaftsbury and his party, was the worst of offences. In the meantime, all the party foul-mouths vented against him the utmost obloquy that could possibly be imagined, as if he had been the basest of men, and the modern time-serving historians chime in with it, though most injurious to the character and honour of the best and wisest of statesmen that England ever had ’. ’ ”

Mr. Malcolm Laing<sup>8</sup>, though he does not spare immorality, has the candour to speak thus of the Duke :—“ During a long imprisonment his mind had been carefully improved by study, and impressed with a sense of religion, which was soon effaced on his return to the world. His learning was extensive and accurate ; in public affairs his experience was considerable, and his elocution copious, though unpolished and indistinct.”

Having given these estimates of the Duke's character, we may allude to his love of literature and of books; as evidenced in his

7 *British Family Antiquity*, by Wm. Playfair, Esq. 4to. 1809 : vol III, p 324.

8 *History of Scotland*, 8vo. 1804 : vol IV, p 33

patronage of learned men, and in the collection of an extensive and valuable library, both of printed books and of MSS. The latter was enriched by the oldest MS. of King Alfred's Anglo-Saxon version of Orosius. In the midst of all his honours, luxury, and indulgence, he did not forget literature, which had been his chief resource and consolation in his long and dreary imprisonment, nor did he disregard the just claims of learned men. Amongst those whom he patronized was the learned septentrional scholar, George Hickes, who accompanied the Duke to Scotland, as his chaplain, in 1677. Dr. Hickes mentions the Lauderdale MS. of Orosius in his Catalogue of Anglo-Saxon MSS. published in 1688<sup>9</sup>. From their intimacy, there is no doubt that Dr. Hickes had seen this MS. in the Duke's library, and ascertained something of its history, but he only enables us to trace it back to the preceding century, by incidentally stating that it was formerly the property of Dr. John Dee.

Dr. Dee was a celebrated mathematician, and in great favour with Queen Elizabeth. Though holding some absurd opinions on astrology, he was a most diligent and liberal collector of MSS.<sup>1</sup>, for, it is said, he expended upwards of three thousand pounds on

<sup>9</sup> Liber A. S. in *Bibl. Lauderdaliana. Orosii Historia*. Hic Cod. olim fuit peculium Johannis Dee, M.D. Vide, *Catalogus veterum librorum septentrionalium*, p 167: appended to—*Grammaticæ Islandicæ Rudimenta*, per Runolphum Jonam Islandum; Oxoniæ 1688. In 1705 Wanley's *Catalogus Librorum septentrionalium*, tam manscriptorum quam impressorum, was published. With his wonted honesty and accuracy Wanley says, pref. p v,—nihil in hoc Catalogo Librorum Diplomatumve esse descriptum, quod manibus oculisque non usurpavi, exceptis libris, qui sequuntur; scil. *Codex Joannis Ducis Lauderia*, qui memoratur in pag. 303. etc. As he had not seen it, he there merely states on the authority of Hickes: *In Bibliotheca Lauderdaliana Nuper extabat*. 1. *Orosii historia Saxonice*, olim peculium Johannis Dee.

<sup>1</sup> Speaking of the Lauderdale MS. Wanley says—qui quondam fuerat peculium doctissimi viri *Joannis Dee*, M.D. ejus vigilantibus curæ debent eruditi, quod multorum Cod. antiquorum beneficio adhuc fruuntur, quorum jactura alias deploranda foret. *Catal.* p 85

his collection<sup>2</sup>, a large sum, in those days, for a person of very limited income. According to Lilly<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Dee died in 1608, "at Mortlake in Surrey, very poor, enforced many times to sell some book or other to buy his dinner with, as Dr. Napier, of Linford in Buckinghamshire, oft related, who knew him very well." In some of his difficulties, it is probable that this fine old Anglo-Saxon MS. of Orosius was sold. As it is not found in the catalogue of his MSS., written, as he states, Sep. 6th 1583, it must have been disposed of before that year<sup>4</sup>. It has not been ascertained through how many hands it passed before it came into the possession of the Duke of Lauderdale. For nearly a century, we cannot find any record of it. All that we know is, that it had been in the possession of Dr. Dee, who had disposed of it before 1583, when he made his Catalogue. It must have passed into the hands of the Duke of Lauderdale, probably from the Hatton collection, before 1682, as the Duke died in that year. We are told it was collated with the Junian transcript of the Cotton MS. by Dr. Marshall<sup>5</sup>, Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford; that must have been done some time before 1685, as that is the recorded year of his demise. In 1688 Dr. Hickes speaks of it as the Lauderdale MS.<sup>6</sup>, and Wanley gives it the same designation in 1704.

There are, however, intimations that this MS. was once in the Hatton collection; for what has been called the Hatton Anglo-Saxon MS. of Orosius, appears to be only that which is now

2 Pref. p viii. to Dr. Dee's Diary and Catalogue of his MSS. by James Orchard Halliwell, Esq., 4to. Camden Society for 1842. Mr. D'Israeli has given a correct view of Dr. Dee's character in his "Amenities of Literature."

3 Life of William Lilly, written by himself in 1668. 1 vol. 8vo. 1774.

4 Dr. Dee's Diary and Catalogue of his MSS. by Mr. Halliwell, p. 65.

5 Wanley's Catal. p. 85.

6 See note 1, Hickes's Catal. 4to. 1688, p. 145, and Wanley, p. 85.

known as the Lauderdale. Hickes, in 1688<sup>7</sup>, says that the MS. of Orosius, which was in the Hatton Library not long ago, could not then be found. There is not any evidence that either he or Elstob had ever seen the, so-called, Hatton MS.; yet Elstob gives various readings from what he calls Codex Hattonianus. As every one of these various readings is exactly the same as the Lauderdale, it is presumed that the Lauderdale and Hatton MS. is one and the same. This MS., then, must have been sold from the Hatton MSS. before they were purchased by the Bodleian, Oxford, as Hickes could not find it there, nor is it contained in the MS. Catalogue of the Hatton MSS. in the Bodleian, dated 1686. If these facts and intimations be duly weighed, they seem to sanction the following conclusions:—That this MS. passed from the library of Dr. Dee before 1583; that it was, for some time, in the Hatton library, but was removed from that depository, probably by sale, to the Duke of Lauderdale, as it was in his library sometime before his death in 1682.

The subsequent history of this MS. must be traced through the connexion that was formed between the Duke of Lauderdale, and the family of Tollemache, one of the oldest in Suffolk, and of Anglo-Saxon origin, as the name indicates, for Tollemache is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *tol*, *toll* or *tribute*, and *maca*, *a mate, companion, or fellow, one connected with the revenues*. The Tollemaches have flourished in Suffolk, in uninterrupted male succession, from the first arrival of the Saxons in England, for more than thirteen centuries. Their early arrival with a Saxon tribe is indicated by an inscription on the Manor-house at Bentley, Suffolk:—

*Before the Normans into England came,  
Bentley was my seat, and Tollemache my name.*

7 Notandum quod inter Codd. *Hatton*. desiderantur: . . . *Orosius*, cum tractatulo de mensibus et Chronico *Abindonensi*, etc. . . . quæ omnia non ita pridem extitere in *Hatton*. Bibl. *Hickes's Catal.* 4to. Oxon. 1688, p 139.

The Duke of Lauderdale, having obtained the highest honours, united himself to the ancient family of Tollemache by marrying in 1672, for his second wife, Elizabeth, the older of the two daughters and co-heiress of William Murray, Earl of Dysart, and widow of Sir Lionel Tollemache, of Helmingham Hall, Suffolk, the third Baronet. The Duke died without male issue in 1682, when the Dukedom and all his other personal honours expired, while those of his family devolved upon his brother Charles, who then became the third Earl of Lauderdale.

The Duchess, who was a lady of great energy and talent, and "whose literary accomplishments were beyond her sex<sup>8</sup>," survived her husband fifteen years. Soon after the Duke's death, a dispute<sup>9</sup> arose between his brother Charles and the Duchess, in which the valuable library of MSS. and printed books was involved. When it was found expedient to dispose of the library<sup>1</sup>, the Duchess, knowing how highly some of the MSS. were valued by the late Duke, was naturally anxious, from her affectionate

8 Laing's Hist. of Scotland, 8vo. 1804, vol IV, p 57.

9 "The Duke's library, which was of considerable extent and value, was sold, at successive intervals, (see next note) by public auction in London, probably in consequence of the litigation which took place between the Duchess and his brother Charles, who succeeded to the Earldom." Evelyn, in a letter to Samuel Pepys, dated 12 Aug. 1689, says :—"The Duke of Lauderdale's (library) is yet intire, choicely bound, and to be sold by a friend of mine to whom they are pawn'd." *Evelyn's Memoirs*, 4to. vol II, p 287 : 8vo. vol IV, p 319.—*The Bannatyne Miscellany*, 4to. Edin. 1836. In this *Miscellany*, vol II, p 153—158, there is—*Catalogus Librorum Manuscriptorum e Bibliotheca Joannis Ducis de Lauderdale M.DC.XCII., with an Introduction*, p 151, 152, by the Right Honourable J. G. Craig.

1 The printed books were sold in London, at two sales in May 1690, but the MSS. were not sold for nearly two years, in Jan. 1692, as will be seen by the Titles of the following catalogues.—1, "Bibliothèque de feu Monseigneur le Duc de Lauderdale," &c. (French, Italian, and Spanish Books) May 14th 1690, 4to. pp 28.—2, The English part of the Library of the Duke of Lauderdale, &c., May 27th 1690, 4to. pp 16.—3, *Bibliotheca Instructissima etc. Cui adjicitur Bibliotheca Manuscripta Lauderdaliana, etc. Cujus auctio habebitur Londini apud Tom's Coffee House, prope Ludgate, adjacentem vico vulgo dicto Ludgate Hill, die 25 Januarii 1692*, per Jo. Bullord, Bibl. 4to. A set of these Catalogues, from the library of the late Mr. Heber, is now in the possession of James T. Gibson Craig, Esq. *Bannatyne Miscellany*, 4to. Edin. 1836, vol II, p 151.

regard for him, to retain those which he considered his greatest treasures. Among these was the Anglo-Saxon MS. of Orosius, which she rightly judged could not fail to be most interesting and of the highest value to the Tollemaches, one of the oldest Anglo-Saxon families in England. This reservation and care of the MS. will account for its not being in the sale of the Duke's other MSS., and for its omission in the catalogue of the sale, reprinted in the Bannatyne Miscellany, as stated in the preceding notes. The Duchess died in 1697, and was succeeded in all her own honours by the eldest son of her first husband, Sir Lionel Tollemache, who then became second Earl of Dysart. He inherited the Suffolk estates, with Helmingham Hall, and the library containing this MS. It descended with the Helmingham and Cheshire estates in 1837 to its present owner, John Tollemache, Esquire, M.P., son of the late Admiral Tollemache, and nephew of the fifth Earl of Dysart. It has been in the library at Helmingham Hall since the death of the Duke, and has been little used for more than a century and a half. On July 17th 1850, I was invited to Helmingham to examine this MS., and ascertain how it could be made available in improving the Anglo-Saxon text of my proposed edition of Orosius. It was then, with a kindness and confidence that I can never forget, most unexpectedly placed in my hands, and I had the possession and unrestrained use of it till July 27th 1854, on which day it was returned, and it is now securely kept in the library at Helmingham Hall.

Having given this brief and imperfect history of the Lauderdale MS. of King Alfred's Anglo-Saxon version of Orosius, it is of the first importance to use every means to ascertain its age and value as a translation. The writing is a fine specimen of the free and expeditious hand, adopted by scribes towards the latter part of King Alfred's reign. The letters are rather small, but very clear, and the contractions not numerous. The table of contents

is in rather a larger and bolder hand than the remainder of the MS. The letters and accents are all written in the same hand and ink, without any coloured letters or illuminations. The only ornamental part of the writing is at the beginning of the first five books, where the initial letters are formed in elegant devices<sup>2</sup>, which, being drawn in the brown-black ink of the MS., produce a very pleasing effect. From the style and general appearance of the writing, the particular form of the letters, and of the contractions, this MS. seems to have been written about the close of the ninth century, or the beginning of the tenth.

The two forms of the letter *y*, as seen in their transition state, indicate the early date of L. In the first line of Pl. I, we have *ymb hwyrft*, where the two forms of *y* are seen: the early *y*, without a dot, in *ymb*; and the transition form, with the incipient dot, in *hwyrft*. The *y* in *hwyrft* is formed by beginning the top of the first stroke on the right, with a hair line, making it gradually thick in the curve, and finer as it descends till it terminates, as it began, with a hair line. The second stroke is taken out of the middle or thick part of the first, and is terminated, on the right, with a pressure of the pen, forming a dot. To make the top of the first stroke agree with the closing dot of the second, the pen must be placed there again, and a dot made. As it required a quick sight, a steady hand, and great care to place the dot exactly at the fine beginning of the first stroke, a space was very often seen between the dot and the fine stroke. To remove this difficulty, the first stroke of the *y* was made of the same thickness, and the dot placed above to the right. This may, perhaps, account for the dot over the *y*, which subsequently came into general use. Every *y*, in the facsimile of the Cotton MS. Pl. II, will serve as an example of this *ȳ* with a point or dot over it.

<sup>2</sup> A specimen, but not the best, may be seen in the initial letter of Pl. I.



The contractions in L are generally such as prevailed in the ninth century, as may be seen in Pl. I. Much stress, however, must not be laid on their use; as indicating the date, especially where the Runic character or letter<sup>3</sup>, named *épel*, is written as a contraction for the word *épel*. The names of the Runes, or of the indigenous pagan alphabet, like the names of the Hebrew letters, are significant words. In this instance, the name of the Anglo-Saxon Rune or pagan letter is *épel*, which signifies *native land, birth place*. The Runic letter *épel* is used twice in Beowulf, instead of the word *épel*, 1035: 1819<sup>4</sup>. Other Runes<sup>5</sup> are found in MSS. written at a later period than L.

The Cotton MS. has been ascribed to the tenth<sup>6</sup> century; but, from the form and character of the writing, it does not appear to be so old as the Lauderdale. The L must be older than C, if the latter copied from L; and some evidence may be adduced to make it appear probable that C did copy from L, or that they both copied from one and the same old MS. The former is more probable, for the omissions of L are omitted by C. Some of the omissions of C are just such as would be made by a copier of L, and some of the errors of L seem to be copied by C. These points are now to be examined.

The copy of a MS. would naturally have the same omissions, as that from which it was copied. This is just the relation that subsists between C and L; for, in the table of contents, the scribe of L neglected to write the title of Book V: Ch. VIII;

<sup>3</sup> L p 103, 4 d: Bk IV, ch 5, § 3, p 82, 20 b.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Kemble on A. S. Runes, *Archæologia*, vol XXVIII, p 344.—Hickes's *Thes.* vol I, p 135.

<sup>5</sup> *Codex Exoniensis*, p 50, etc. Hickes's *Thes.* vol II, p 3—5: Tab. IIII—VI: *Archæol.* vol XXVIII, p 360—365.

<sup>6</sup> "Not later than the tenth century." *Thorpe's Oros. pref. p vi.* In Mr. Planta's Catalogue of the Cotton MSS. in the Brit. Mus. fol 1802, p 34, it is assigned to the xith century.

and this title is omitted by C'. It is therefore probable that one of these MSS. was copied from the other.

There are other omissions, which seem to indicate the MS. that was copied from the other. All, who have been accustomed to copying, must have observed how liable they have been to omit intervening words, clauses, and even sentences, when the eye has caught the same word or words immediately or at some distance below. Such omissions occur in C.—In p 17, 21 *h-k* on *þæt sand* occur in L, and the scribe of C, seeing the same words just below, omits the intervening clause 21 *k-22 c*, and writes the first — on *þæt sand*, 21 *h-k*, and goes on and *þær 22 gh*. The following is a still longer and more striking example. The L gives a minute account of the Amazons p 33, 39 *a-p* 34, 4 *e*. The first line of this account ends with *earme wíf*, and nine lines forward the line closes with *earman wíf*. The scribe of C, after writing *earme wíf*, caught his eye upon *earman wíf* below, and went on,—*men hie swa tintredon*, omitting the whole nine intervening lines, 33, 40 *i-p* 34, 4 *b*: L p 33, 26 *a-p* 34, 3 *j*: C fol. 23.—It seems to be evident, from these examples, that L was not copied from C, for then L would not have had the passages omitted by C; but that C copied from L, as the same word or words occur twice in L, below each other, so as to catch the eye of the scribe, while they occur only once in C.

This is rendered more probable, when the very errors of L are copied by C. In L p 125, the scribe carelessly wrote,—*Lapidus Mutius wæs consul*, making the names of the two consuls as one. The scribe of C, fol. 79, minutely copied the error of L, instead of writing correctly, *Lepidus and Mucius wæron consulas*<sup>7</sup>. In L p 38, 18 *b* the scribe first wrote the defective word *mæse*; but,

<sup>7</sup> See the printed A. S. text, p 13, 23 *a-24 c*: and the L, p 6: C fol 4, and fol 81 b.

<sup>8</sup> See note to Oros. p 98, 10 *c-f*, and the A. S. printed text.

perceiving his error, he put *ian* above in small letters, making the proper word *mæsiane*; C, observing only the larger and more perceptible letters, and passing over the small superscribed *ian*, copied the erroneous word *mæse*<sup>9</sup>.

But there may be such omissions, and a copy of such peculiar errors as prove, almost beyond a doubt, which was copied from the other. Such is the following:—At the end of sheet IIII, and at the bottom of p 62 of the Lauderdale MS., the scribe had only room to write *Læcede-*; and in taking another sheet, and in beginning the next page, he omitted *-monia*, the concluding part of *Læcede-monia*, and began p 63 with the next complete word *ealdor-man*; instead, therefore, of writing *Læcede-monia ealdor-man*, he only wrote *Læcede ealdor-man*. This was a very possible and natural omission of L, at the conclusion of a page, when the usual attention was diverted by taking and beginning a new sheet. The scribe of C copied the incomplete word *Læcede*, just as L left it, without the same reason for leaving it incomplete, as it does not conclude a sheet, nor come at the end of a line in C. It seems hardly possible, then, that such a glaring mistake could have been made in C, if it had not been copied from L<sup>1</sup>.

It seems clear, from these examples, that L and C are so closely connected as to lead to the conclusion that one was the copy of the other. But the more ample text of L could not be copied from C, as the deficient clauses and sentences of the latter testify. If, then, one was a copy of the other, and L did not copy from C, it follows that C copied from L; and, if the scribe of the Cotton did copy from the Lauderdale, the latter must be the older, as previously intimated.

This conclusion is not invalidated by the fact, that a few

<sup>9</sup> Note, p 37, 16 a.

<sup>1</sup> A. S. printed text, p 54, 28 a and note: L p 62, 63: C fol. 41 b.

words and clauses, and one short sentence [p 9, 2 *a*—3 *b*], have been found in C, and omitted in L. These are merely explanatory, and such as might be inserted by a scribe acquainted with the A. S. idiom, such as the writer of the Cotton MS., whose alterations from the L seem to lead to the belief that he was an Anglo-Saxon, or at least, judging from his orthography, that he was familiar with the cultivated language of the West Saxons. There are, however, so many instances of great carelessness in the scribe of C, as to lead a casual observer to say, it is the “work of an illiterate scribe.” The various omissions and errors in C and L are pointed out in the Notes and Various Readings.

It is not only the antiquity of the Lauderdale MS. for which it is distinguished, but for its use of accents, its grammatical forms, and important readings. The accents are neither numerous nor regular; but, when applied, they are generally correct. In the inflection of words and the construction of sentences, great care has been manifested. It is more accurate than C, in distinguishing the terminations of -an and -on, both in nouns and verbs. In C, there is great confusion in these terminations; while in L, they are generally correct: thus, where C has for the infinitive, *standon* and *habbon*; and for the perfect plural, *stóðan* and *hæfdan*; for the *ac.* and *dat. pl.* *þone sweoron*, *fisceran*, *fugeleran*, *huntan* p 20, 5; L has properly *standan*, *habban*; *stódon* and *hæfdon*; *þone sweoran*; *fiscerum*, *fugelerum* and *huntum*.—In the *pl.* of the subjunctive mood, especially of the perfect tense, L affords many examples of the distinctive termination -en; as *hæbben*, *næbben*, *hæfden*, *wæren*, *næren*, *mosten* and *mehten*. C retains a few of these, as *oferdrifen* p 30, 27 *h*, sometimes omitting the *n*, as *mihte* Bk I: ch. xiv § 2, p 37, 31 *d*: L *mehten*.—In addition to greater accuracy in grammatical forms, L has often better readings than C. L has generally *cyning*, sometimes contracted *cyng*, while C uses the impure and later forms, *kyning*, *kyningc*, *kyngc*, and *cyngc*.—

L, by a single word, frequently restores the sense to a passage, which had been involved in difficulty by the faulty reading of C. In Bk V : ch. x § 4, p 109, 5 *b*, C has *gesettan*, *appeased*, *allayed*, as *gesette*, in Bk IV : ch. xi § 6, p 98, 2 *c*, altering the meaning : on turning to L, the true reading is found, *ge-iceton added to*, *increased*, *strengthened*, and thus the sense is restored.

L, however, has a predilection for the use of certain letters. The radical *g*, after a vowel, an *r* or *l*, is always retained at the end of words in L, instead of being changed into *h*, as in C. Thus, L has *beág*, *wág*, *beorg*, *burg*, and the regular gen. *beáges*, *wáges*, *beorges*, *burge* ; while C has *beáh*, *wáh*, *beorh*, *burh*, and the gen. as above, *beáges*, *etc.* Also *slog slew*, *búg bow*, *on-wealg sound*, instead of *sloh*, *búh*, *on-wealh*.—L generally substitutes *ie* for *i*, *í*, *y* or *ý*, as *fiend*, *giet*, *gegierwan*, *hie*, *hiene*, *hierde*, *iernende*, for *fynd*, *gyt*, *gegyrwan*, *hí*, *hý*, *hine*, *hyrde*, *yrnende*.—The *a* is often changed into *o*, especially before *m* and *n* : thus, L generally writes *gelomp*, *lond*, *mon*, *monig*, *ond*, *sond*, while C more frequently has *gelamp*, *land*, *man*, *manig*, *and*, *sand*.—L sometimes uses *an* for *on*, [L p 83, 15 *a* : 93, 30 *i* : 130, 3 *f*.]

Having given a brief history of the Lauderdale MS., and advanced some reasons for concluding that it is the oldest MS. of Orosius now known to exist, and shewn its superiority in its grammatical forms, and the value of its readings, and also noticed its predilection for the use of certain letters, we may now be permitted to enter upon some minor details, and to give a brief notice of the present condition of this MS.

The parchment of L is clear and good, but age has given it a rather dark colour. The size of the parchment is  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ; the writing occupies  $8\frac{1}{4}$  in. by  $5\frac{1}{8}$  in. each page, consisting of 31 lines. The MS. is divided into portions or sheets of eight leaves. The .iiii. rd, p 46 .iiii. , p 62 .v. , p 78 .vi. , p 94 .vii. ,

*p* 110 ·VIII·, *p* 126 and ·VIII·-th, *p* 142<sup>2</sup> portions or sheets of eight leaves are all thus marked at the foot of the last page of each sheet; the ·x·-th, *p* 143 sheet, however, is marked at the foot of its first page, while the 1st sheet and xith, which contains only seven leaves, are not visibly marked. The whole MS., therefore, consists of ten sheets of eight leaves, and the xith sheet of seven leaves, making a total of 87 leaves, ( $10 \times 8 + 7 = 87$ ) or 174 pages. The sheets are now all complete, except the second. This second sheet of eight leaves, from page 15<sup>3</sup> to 30 both inclusive, has unfortunately been torn out, at an early period, and the chasm filled up by the insertion of eight leaves of modern parchment, on which there was a very imperfect transcript from C of the missing leaves. The writing was not only incorrect, but so small that it filled only twelve of the sixteen pages, leaving four blank. Altogether the imperfection of this transcript was so great, that I was most anxious to have a facsimile copy from C of those pages wanting in L. I was enabled to gratify my desire, and to engage Messrs. Netherclift and Son to make the facsimiles by the liberality of the owner of the L. In using the greatest exertion to secure accuracy, every letter was carefully compared with C, and revised three times<sup>4</sup> by myself at the British Museum. A facsimile copy was then printed on parchment, which has been carefully inserted into the L with this explanatory note written at the top of the first facsimile page.—“The following eleven

2 The pages, following the Roman numerals, refer to the pages of the L manuscript, where the sheet ends. The place, where one sheet of L ends and another begins, may be found in the notes by turning to L *p* 46, L *p* 62 *etc.* In the text above ·IIII·rd *p* 46 denote that *the third sheet of L* ends with page 46 of L. The place in the printed text where each sheet ends is referred to in the notes, thus page 46 of L refers to 43, 12c, that is in page 43, line 12, word *c* or 3, the third sheet of L ends, and the fourth begins.

3 The first leaf of L being filled with irrelevant matter, the paging of Orosius begins on the second leaf of the first sheet, hence there are only seven leaves or fourteen pages of manuscript in the first sheet, and therefore the paging of the second sheet is from 15 to 30 inclusive.

4 The smallest error or omission of a stroke is noticed at the end of Notes and Various Readings to Orosius.

leaves are a facsimile copy of the Cotton MS. They contain the same matter as the eight missing leaves, mentioned at the foot of the preceding page<sup>5</sup>, and they are now inserted by Joseph Bosworth, LL.D., at the request of John Tollemache, Esq. M.P. Helmingham Hall, September 29th, 1856." The insertion of this facsimile from the C, makes the L as complete as possible, now it has its deficiency supplied from the only MS. of nearly its own age.

The same lithographic artists also prepared facsimiles of the three pages of L, comprehending King Alfred's Description of Europe, and the first part of Ohthere's voyage<sup>6</sup>. A few copies of these facsimiles of L, and of C, intended chiefly for presents, were printed upon tinted paper to resemble the colour of the manuscripts, with the following title :—A description of Europe and the voyages of Ohthere and Wulfstan, written in Anglo-Saxon by King Alfred the Great; containing,—1 A facsimile copy of the whole A. S. text from C, and as far as it exists in L; together sixteen facsimile pages,—2 A printed A. S. text, based on these MSS.,—3 Notes and various readings,—4 A literal English translation and notes,—5 A map of Europe in the time of Alfred.—It was printed in large 4to. to accord with the size of the MSS.

The first leaf of sheet 1 does not contain any matter referring to Orosius, the paging, therefore, begins with the first page of the second leaf, where the MS. of Orosius commences. It ends at the bottom of the right hand page of the seventh and last leaf of sheet xi, having the last, or left hand page, filled with a nearly obliterated account of the dimensions of Noah's ark, the age of the patriarch, and of his sons. Thus, three pages,—the two pages of the first leaf, and the last page,—being taken from 174,

<sup>5</sup> This note is copied from L and given in Notes and Various Readings to Book I: ch. I, § 14: p 20, 18 c.

<sup>6</sup> Orosius, Bk I: ch. I, § 11—14: p 18, 20 a—p 20, 18 c.

—the pages in the entire MS. will leave 171 pages filled with MS. of King Alfred's A. S. version of Orosius.

The first leaf is of the same parchment as the rest of the MS., but both of its pages are occupied with irrelevant devices. In the first page, there are emblematical representations of the four Evangelists, drawn with the pen in the same brown-black ink as the MS. Towards the left upper corner, within a circle, formed by a rough outline of a coiled serpent, over whose head is a small square with the letter *r* in red, there is a neat outline of an eagle with a rough stroke of red under the eye, extending to the end of the beak. Above its head is written *aquila, iohā*, that is, *Iohannes*. Within a smaller circle, a little to the right of the last, a lamb is represented having the horns, and a square between the fore-feet, painted red, and *Marcus* written over its back, and *Agnus Dei* over its head. A little below, and to the right of the circle of *Marcus*, is an ox, without any circle, but with *Lucas* inscribed on its side. In a single line, below *Aquila* and *Agnus Dei*, a curious Runic alphabet extends nearly the width of the page, each Rune being accompanied with the small common letter, that represents the Rune. A little lower, and to the left of the middle of the page, there is a parallelogram filled with a rough, flourishing and fanciful drawing, some of the most prominent parts of which are painted red. Over the parallelogram is written,—*Vinea Domini*. In the right-hand lower corner, is a human figure with a glory surrounding the head, and with hands extended holding a globe. The face, the shoulder, and the globe are touched with red. *Mattheus* is written on the neck and over the head. The second page contains only an enlarged, rude and more recent outline of the figure last described, with *Fulgens* written over its head.

The MS. upon the whole is in a fair state of preservation, though there are a few worm holes, perforating the first eight



leaves, and some small cuts and injuries in the subsequent leaves. There is about an inch torn out of the middle of the foot of page 33, but it does not touch the writing. In *p* 39, there is a slit in the parchment about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch long, and very narrow. It must have been an original cut in the skin, as the scribe writes to the left edge, and then skips over the slit, and continues his writing on the right side, as if the parchment had been perfect. In *p* 41 there was an original defect in the parchment, which has been extended to two inches by a subsequent rend. In *p* 43, there is a small oval hole about one eighth of an inch long. The parchment is quite perfect from *p* 43 to 107. In *p* 107 there is another original hole, of oval form, one inch long and half an inch wide. In the margin of *p* 115, there is an irregular cut about five eighths of an inch by one quarter. At the foot of *p* 119, there is a small rend. In the middle of *p* 121, there is a round hole not quite a quarter of an inch in diameter, which is made to represent the body of a frog, the head and other parts being neatly drawn in outline round the hole with a pen and the same ink as that used for the MS. On the other side of the leaf (*p* 122) the same hole is surrounded with a frill, at the upper part of which a dog's head is drawn. Twelve lines below, in the same 122nd page, round the margin of two small holes, is a very good outline of a dog's head and fore-feet, in profile, the upper hole representing the eye. These were original defects in the parchment, which the scribe attempted to turn into ornaments. A piece about an inch and a half long, and three quarters of an inch broad, is torn out of the middle of the margin of *p* 133. In *p* 148, at the beginning of Book VI, there is not the usual ornamental letter, but merely a blank space; indicating that such a letter was intended. At the beginning of many of the chapters in this book, there are also blank spaces, indicating that they were intended to be filled with the same sort of letters, as those which were used in the preceding five books. At the foot

of p 165, there is a rend in the parchement about an inch long. In p 169, there is an original cut in the skin about half an inch by a quarter. The last leaf is a little shrivelled, apparently from having been pasted on the cover, and, at some early period, in taking it off, five holes have been made in the parchement. The largest is about three quarters by half an inch, and at the beginning, and between the lines 3 and 5 taking away 3 letters in line 4, leaving only þu unade, for þurhwunade, and the upper part of two letters in line 5. The second hole is in line 13, and egg shaped, not quite a quarter of an inch long, but taking away the corner of the contraction for and, and the h in hiene. The other three are very small and do not deface any letters. In other respects the parchement is quite perfect, and in good preservation.

THE END.



